

AKC

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/768,655

Applicant(s)

NAKATA ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Mariceli Santiago

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed August 16, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 49-55.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The Amendment, filed on August 16, 2005, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Cancellation of claims 1-48 has been entered.

Claims 49-55 are pending in the instant application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the abstract, pursuant to MPEP 608.01(b) the abstract has been amended as follows,

Replace the abstract in its entirety with the following paragraph,

-- The present invention provides a method of manufacturing an image display device in which a panel member constituting a panel of an image display device is transferred to a plurality of processing chambers each comprising a temperature control unit, and subjected to a plurality of processing steps under temperature control. The pressure in each of the plurality of processing chambers is set to be not more than that of the previous processing chamber of the transfer process.--

In the specification,

At page 1, the sentence that was inserted on a separate line before the heading "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION", by the Amendment filed on February 2, 2004, has been amended as follows:

--This is a divisional application of Application No. 09/961,430, filed on September 25, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,702,636, issued April 9, 2004.--

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 49-55 are allowed over the prior art of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 49, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 49, and specifically comprising the limitation of the plurality of processing chambers include a baking chamber for baking the panel member, and a sealing chamber for sealing the panel member transferred thereto after baking, and the processing in each of the plurality of processing chambers is performed so that a pressure in each of the processing chambers is set to a pressure not more than that in the previous chamber in the transfer process.

Regarding claim 50, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 50, and specifically comprising the limitation of the plurality of processing chambers include a baking chamber for baking the panel member, a gettering chamber for gettering the panel member transferred thereto after baking, and a sealing chamber for sealing the panel member transferred thereto after gettering, and the processing in each of the plurality of processing chambers is performed so that a pressure in each of the processing chambers is set to a pressure not more than that in the previous chamber in the transfer process.

Regarding claim 51, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 51, and specifically comprising the limitation of the plurality of processing chambers include a baking chamber for baking the panel member,

a surface cleaning chamber for cleaning the surface of the panel member transferred thereto after baking, a gettering chamber for gettering the panel member transferred thereto after surface cleaning, and a sealing chamber for sealing the panel member transferred thereto after gettering, and the processing in each of the plurality of processing chambers is performed so that a pressure in each of the processing chambers is set to a pressure not more than that in the previous chamber in the transfer process.

Regarding claim 52, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 52, and specifically comprising the limitation of the plurality of processing chambers include a baking chamber for baking the panel member, a surface cleaning chamber for cleaning the surface of the panel member transferred thereto after baking, a pre-gettering chamber for gettering the inside of the processing chamber to which the panel member is transferred after surface cleaning, a gettering chamber for gettering the panel member transferred thereto after pre-gettering, and a sealing chamber for sealing the panel member transferred thereto after gettering, and the processing in each of the plurality of processing chambers is performed so that a pressure in each of the processing chambers is set to a pressure not more than that in the previous chamber in the transfer process.

Regarding claim 53, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 53, and specifically comprising the limitation of the plurality of processing chambers include a baking chamber for baking the panel member, a pre-gettering chamber for gettering the inside of the processing chamber to which the panel member is transferred after baking, a gettering chamber for gettering the panel member transferred thereto after pre-gettering the panel member transferred thereto after pre-gettering, and a sealing chamber for sealing the panel member transferred thereto after gettering, and the processing in each of the plurality of processing chambers is performed so that a pressure in

each of the processing chambers is set to a pressure not more than that in the previous chamber in the transfer process.

Regarding claim 54, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 54, and specifically comprising the limitation of the plurality of processing chambers include a baking chamber for baking the panel member, a cooling chamber for cooling the panel member transferred thereto after baking, and a sealing chamber for sealing the panel member transferred thereto after cooling, and the processing in each of the plurality of processing chambers is performed so that a pressure in each of the processing chambers is set to a pressure not more than that in the previous chamber in the transfer process.

Regarding claim 55, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 55, and specifically comprising the limitation of the plurality of processing chambers include a baking chamber for baking the panel member, a cooling chamber for cooling the panel member transferred thereto after baking, a gettering chamber for gettering the panel member transferred thereto after cooling, and a sealing chamber for sealing the panel member transferred thereto after gettering, and the processing in each of the plurality of processing chambers is performed so that a pressure in each of the processing chambers is set to a pressure not more than that in the previous chamber in the transfer process.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

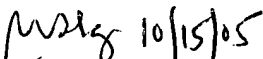
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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mariceli Santiago whose telephone number is (571) 272-2464. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Mariceli Santiago
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2879